

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20 RSC-01

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 OIC-04 L-03 DRC-01 /087 W

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R 202046Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6431

INFO USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT OF SPAIN 1183

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, TD, OAS, PINT

SUBJECT: CREDENTIALS ISSUES AND EFFECTIVENESS OF INTERNATIONAL
CONFERENCES

REF: A. STATE 62535 AND 83517; B. STATE 104050 AND 99106

1. DCM HAD LENGTH INFORMAL DISCUSSION MAY 16 WITH GOTT MINISTRY
OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS PERMSEC ABDULAH REGARDING PROBLEM FOR EFFECTIVE-
NESS OF INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES CREATED BY LENGTHY AND POLITICIZED
CREDENTIALS FIGHTS. CONVERSATION RANGED OVER RECENT LAW OF WAR
CONFERENCE IN GENEVA AND FORTHCOMING UPU AND LOS CONFERENCES. DCM
REVIEWED ISSUE OF PRG AND GRUNK CREDENTIALS QUESTIONS BUT LAID STRESS
ON DEGREE TO WHICH POLITICALIZED CREDENTIALS FIGHTS TENDED TO
JEOPARDIZE VIABILITY OF LARGE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES AS MECHANISM
FOR ADDRESSING REAL PROBLEMS FACING INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY.

2. ABDULAH ACKNOWLEDGED GOTT INTEREST IN MAINTAINING
VIABILITY OF INTERNATIONAL MECHANISMS FOR SETTLING PROBLEMS IN
INCREASINGLY INTERDEPENDENT WORLD, BUT AS EXPECTED STOPPED SHORT OF
SPECIFIC COMMITMENT REGARDING ANY PARTICULAR CREDENTIALS QUESTION.
ABDULAH NOTED THAT FONOFF LEGAL ADVISER BALLAH (WHO HAS
ATTENDED MANY INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES FOR GOTT) HAD INDICATED
CONCERN THAT CONFERENCE EFFECTIVENESS BEING DIMINISHED BY SAME
PROBLEM.

3. DCM DID NOT TAKE UP WIDER ISSUE OF POLITICAL LOG ROLLING AND
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LDC STEAMROLLER TACTICS SUMMARIZED IN REFS B, SINCE WE ARE

AWAITING OPPORTUNITY FOR ME TO TAKE THESE UP DIRECTLY WITH
MINISTER CUTHBERT JOSEPH IN A DISCUSSION OF HIS ATTENDANCE AT RECENT
SPEICIAL UNGA, WASHINGTON MFM, AND ATLANTA OAS MEETINGS. MY
EFFORT TO SEE DR. JOSEPH SINCE HIS RETURN TO TRINIDAD FROM
ATLANTA, HOWEVER, IS EXAMPLE OF HOW TIGHTLY CABINET HERE
IS KEPT IN REIN BY PRIMIN WILLIAMS. DR. JOSEPH'S OFFICE HAS
INFORMED US THAT HE CANNOT SEE ME TO DISCUSS THE RECENT
CONFERENCES UNTIL HE HAS MADE HIS FORMAL REPORT TO THE CABINET
WITH THE PRIME MINISTER PRESENT. SINCE DR. WILLIAMS IS NOT
EXPECTED BACK BEFORE MAY 22, THAT REPORT PRESUMABLY CANNOT BE
GIVEN BEFORE THURSDAY CABINET MEETING MAY 23. NEVERTHELESS, I
AM CONTINUING TO PRESS FOR AN INFORMAL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS IN LIGHT
OF OUR NEED TO CONSIDER FOLLOW-UP BY OUR RESPECTIVE GOVERNMENTS
TO THE OAS AND MFM SESSIONS.
MILLER

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